THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): The population of Nepali-speaking people in India is yet to be tabulated.

[Translation]

Talks with Nepal on Control of Floods in North Bihar

576. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to hold talks with the Government of Nepal on matters relating to control of floods in North Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Talks were held in the second meeting of the Indo-Nepal Sub-Commission on Water Resources in April, 1991. The next meeting will be held on the dates mutually convenient to India and Nepal.

[English]

Subsistence allowance to Extra Department Employees

577. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsistence allowance is paid to extra departmental employees when they are removed from their work as per the decision of Central Administrative Tribunal, Bangalore;

(b) if so, the amount thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The special leave petition filed by the Department has been admitted by the Supreme Court and the matter is subjudice.

Fire in Vigyan Bhavan

578. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the inquiry conducted into the devastating fire in Vigyan Bhavan on April 16, 1990;

(b) whether there are differences among the experts of inquiry Committee with regard to the causes of fire; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c) A Committee was appointed by the Administrator, Union Territory of Delhi to inquire into the incident of fire in Vigyan Bhavan on 16-4-1990. The report of the Committee was submitted on 25-7-90. The cause of fire in Vigyan Bhavan could not be pin-pointed by the Committee. The matter was referred again to the Committee and the members have recently given their individual views on the cause of fire. The report of the members of the Committee is under examination in the Delhi Administration.

Irregularities in Construction of Telephone Exchange Building at Kandivilli (Bombay)

579. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1271 on January, 3, 1991 and State:

(a) the outcome of the enquiry made into the irregularities in construction of telephone exchange building at Kandivilli, Bombay and whether the guilty officers involved have been identified;